

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A printer system which inputs drawing data created or edited by an application on a host computer, converts the drawing data to a printer language to create print data, and also outputs the image drawn based on the print data from a printer, said printer system comprising:

 a printer driver which adds information for a drawing object to identify the type of drawing object to the print data; and

 a printer control unit which selects dither data appropriate for the drawing object based on the information for a drawing object added to the print data, and executes a dither method based on the dither data on the print data to expand the data to an image.

2. The printer system according to claim 1, wherein said printer control unit comprises:

 an object determination unit which determines a drawing object of the print data based on the information for a drawing object;

 a dither data output unit which selects dither data matching the drawing object determined by said object determination unit to output the data; and

 a drawing processing unit which executes a dither method on the print data using the dither data output from said dither

~~data output unit to expand the data to an image.~~

3. The printer system according to claim 1, wherein
the drawing object includes at least one of a character, a
5 photograph, and a graphics.

4. The printer system according to claim 1, wherein, when
graphics data used for drawing a graphics is converted to print
data, said printer driver further adds information for area fill,
that indicates presence or absence of area fill in a graphics
image to be drawn based on the graphics data, to the print data,
and said printer control unit selects dither data based on the
area-fill information together with the drawing-object
information.

5. The printer system according to claim 1, wherein, when the
drawing data is CAD data created by a CAD (Computer Aided Design)
application, said printer driver adds information indicating
that the data is the CAD data to print data, and said printer
20 control unit performs processing on the print data using CAD
dither data dedicated to the CAD data.

6. An image processing method for converting drawing data
created or edited by an application on a host computer to a printer
25 language to create print data, and also outputting an image drawn

based on the print data from a printer, said image processing method comprising:

5 a drawing object adding step of adding information for a drawing object to identify the type of drawing object to the print data; and

10 a drawing processing step of selecting dither data appropriate for the drawing object based on the drawing-object information added to the print data, and executing a dither method based on the dither data on the print data to expand the data to an image.

15 7. The image processing method according to claim 6, wherein the drawing processing step comprises:

20 an object determining step of determining a drawing object of the print data based on the drawing-object information;

25 a dither data outputting step of selecting dither data matching the drawing object determined in the object determining step to output the data; and

30 a dithering step of executing a dither method on the print data using the dither data output in the dither data outputting step to expand the data to an image.

35 8. The image processing method according to claim 6, wherein the drawing object includes at least one of a character, a photograph, and a graphics.

9. The image processing method according to claim 6, wherein, when graphics data used for drawing a graphics is converted to print data, the drawing object adding step further includes an area-fill information adding step of adding information for area fill, that indicates presence or absence of area fill in a graphics image to be drawn based on the graphics data, to the print data, and the drawing processing step comprises a step of selecting dither data based on the area-fill information together with the drawing-object information.

10. The image processing method according to claim 6, the method further comprising a CAD information adding step of adding information indicating CAD data to print data when the drawing data is CAD data created by a CAD (Computer Aided Design) application, wherein the print data is processed using CAD dither data dedicated to the CAD data in the drawing processing step.

11. A computer-readable recording medium in which a program for making a computer execute an image processing method for converting drawing data created or edited by an application on a host computer to a printer language to create print data, and also outputting an image drawn based on the print data from a printer, said image processing method comprising:

25 a drawing-object adding step of adding information for a drawing object to identify the type of drawing object to the print

data; and

a drawing processing step of selecting dither data appropriate for the drawing object based on the drawing object information added to the print data, and executing a dither method based on the dither data on the print data to expand the data to an image is recorded.

12. A computer-readable recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the drawing processing step comprises:

10 an object determining step of determining a drawing object of the print data based on the drawing-object information;

a dither data outputting step of selecting dither data matching the drawing object determined in the object determining step to output the data; and

15 a dithering step of executing a dither method on the print data using the dither data output in the dither data outputting step to expand the data to an image.

13. A computer-readable recording medium according to claim 11, wherein the drawing object includes at least one of a character, 20 a photograph, and a graphics.

14. A computer-readable recording medium according to claim 11, wherein, when graphics data used for drawing a graphics is 25 converted to print data, the drawing object adding step further

includes an area-fill information adding step of adding information for area fill, that indicates presence or absence of area fill in a graphics image to be drawn based on the graphics data, to the print data, and the drawing processing step comprises 5 a step of selecting dither data based on the area-fill information together with the drawing-object information.

15. A computer-readable recording medium according to claim 11, the method further comprising a CAD information adding step 10 of adding information indicating CAD data to print data when the drawing data is CAD data created by a CAD (Computer Aided Design) application, wherein the print data is processed using CAD dither data dedicated to the CAD data in the drawing processing step.